

**FILED**

April 29, 2003

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
 DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
 DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
 STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE	)	
SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF	)	
THE LICENSE OF	)	
	)	
VISHWAS BHOPALE, M.D.	)	<u>Administrative Action</u>
LICENSE NO.: 24492	)	
	)	CONSENT ORDER OF REINSTATEMENT
TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND	)	WITH RESTRICTIONS
AND SURGERY IN THE STATE	)	
OF NEW JERSEY	)	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners upon receipt of information that the North Dakota Board of Medical Examiners had placed Dr. Bhopale's license on probation subject to terms and conditions of an Amended Stipulation filed in December 1998. Based upon Dr. Bhopale's admissions before the North Dakota State Board of Medical Examiners, the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners filed a Provisional Order of Discipline on March 20, 2000. This Provisional Order was finalized in a Final Order of Discipline filed December 8, 2000 that

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY**

suspended Dr. Bhopale's license for one year and forbade him from practicing in New Jersey until he appeared before a Committee of the Board to demonstrate his fitness to do so and his compliance with the terms imposed by the North Dakota Board.

The Final Order of Discipline was based upon the Amended Complaint and Amended stipulation filed in December 1998 in North Dakota. It had been alleged, and, Dr. Bhopale admitted therein, that: he had engaged in a continued pattern of inappropriate care in treating hyperparathyroidism, appendicitis, colon problems and rectal bleeding. The North Dakota Board ordered that Dr. Bhopale was not to perform any bowel surgery, parathyroid surgery, thyroid gland surgery or laparoscopic appendectomy, except in the presence of an assisting surgeon approved by the Board until he had performed at least five surgical procedures of each type; the assisting surgeon had submitted a report assessing his surgical skills and medical judgment to the Board; and the Board had determined that he would be authorized to perform that type of surgery. Then the Board would conduct a review of all of Dr. Bhopale's bowel surgeries, parathyroid surgeries, thyroid gland surgeries and laparoscopic appendectomies for a period of one year and for three months would review all other surgeries performed by him. Dr. Bhopale was to participate in an education assessment and

successfully complete all recommended courses of study, to successfully complete a medical recordkeeping course, to pay all fees and expenses resulting from the agreement and to reimburse the Board for its costs and attorneys fees.

Dr. Bhopale's North Dakota license was placed on probation subject to terms and conditions filed December 16, 1998, later modified by Order dated January 8, 1999, by Second Amended stipulation filed April 18, 2000, and by Amended Order filed April 20, 2000, each of which continued probation but reduced restrictions on his practice.

On February 27, 2002, Dr. Bhopale appeared without counsel and offered sworn testimony before a Committee of the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners, petitioning for reinstatement of his license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey. He provided the Committee with a current Curriculum Vitae that included coursework required by North Dakota, as well as courses that might prepare him for the position of Medical Review Officer; a letter from the North Dakota Board of Medical Examiners dated February 25, 2002 confirming that he had complied with all of the CME requirements that were imposed as a result of the North Dakota action; and four letters from surgeons in India attesting to surgeries accomplished under supervision from September 15 through

December 6, 2001.

Dr. Bhopale's license to practice in North Dakota continues in probationary status. as he has not yet completed the supervision as required by North Dakota's Second Amended Stipulation dated April 18, 2000 and Order of April 20, 2000. Dr. Bhopale's license to practice in New Jersey continues to be suspended based upon the Final Order of Discipline of December 8, 2000. Dr. Bhopale's licenses to practice medicine and surgery in Oklahoma and Wyoming are inactive,

The Board finds that Dr. Bhopale has served the one year period of suspension, but has not yet satisfied the remaining requirements of the Final Order of Discipline.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 23 day of April, 2003,

ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent has completed the period of active suspension imposed pursuant to the Final Order of Discipline filed December 8, 2003 and therefore his license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey is hereby reinstated with restrictions.

2. Respondent shall not perform any parathyroid surgery.

3. Respondent shall not perform any thyroid or bowel surgeries in New Jersey until he has satisfied the requirements imposed by North Dakota pursuant to North Dakota Board Order and

Amended Stipulation of April 18 and 20, 2000 namely consultation and review by a named North Dakota Surgeon of Respondent's first ten thyroid surgeries and the first ten bowel surgeries.

4. Upon satisfactory completion of the requirements imposed by North Dakota's Board of Medical Examiners, and restoration of an unrestricted North Dakota license, Respondent may apply to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners for an unrestricted license. At that time, he shall demonstrate to a Committee of the Board that *he* has satisfied the requirements of the North Dakota Order and Amended Stipulation of April 18 and 20, 2000 and that he holds an unrestricted license to practice medicine and surgery in North Dakota.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

William V. Harrer, M.D. B.L.D.  
President

I have read the within Consent  
Order and understand its terms.  
I hereby consent to its entry and  
to be bound by the Consent Order's terms

Vishwas Bhopale, M.D.  
Vishwas Bhopale, M.D.

Dated: 4-16-03.